

long. The instruments used in boring these cavities, are their teeth; the cavity is usually branched into three or four apartments; and in each of these they lay their eggs, to the number of ten or twelve, each separate and distinct from the rest. The egg is involved in a sort of paste, which serves at once for the young animal's protection and nourishment. The grown bees, however, feed upon small insects, particularly a louse, of a reddish brown colour, of the size of a small pin's head.

*Mason-bees* fabricate their cells with a sort of mortar made of earth, which they build against a wall that is exposed to the sun. The mortar, which is at first soft, soon becomes as hard as stone, and in this their eggs are laid. Each nest contains seven or eight cells, and an egg in every cell, placed regularly one over the other. If the nests remains unhurt, or want but little repairs, they make use of them the year ensuing: and thus they often serve three or four years successively.

The *Ground-bee* builds its nest in the earth, in which they make round holes, five or six inches deep; the mouth being narrow, and only  
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